HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS STAFF MEMBERS

FILE TITLE/NUMBER/VOLUME: MEROLA, JOSEPH R.
201-257804

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1959-1977

CUSTODIAL UNIT/LOCATION: LSN/ISR

ROOM:

DELETIONS, IF ANY: THIRD AGENCY DOCUMENTS

DATE RECEIVED	DATE RETURNED	REVIEWED BY (PRINT NAME)	SIGNATURE OF REVIEWING OFFICIAL
	Jan 6	Hornbeck	[signature]

NO DOCUMENTS MAY BE COPIED OR REMOVED FROM THIS FILE.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

MEROLA, Joseph R.
201-257804

MATERIAL FILED IN THIS FOLDER IS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

201-257804

14-00000

FBI DOCUMENTS:

DATE: 1 OCTOBER 1959
SUBJECT: CARIBBEAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES - CUBA
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
FILE #: NONE GIVEN

DATE: 1 JUNE 1959
SUBJECT: RUBEN OSCAR MIRO GUARDIA
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
FILE #: MIAMI 97-261 BUREAU 105-75663

14-00000

AGENCY DOCUMENT CONTAINING FBI INFORMATION
DATE: 16 JUNE 1959 .
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

FBI REPORTS:

DATE: 11 MARCH 1959
SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES
FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS-PANAMA
FBI FILE #: 109-12-223 (BUREAU)

DATE: 30 SEPTEMBER 1958
SUBJECT: JOSEPH MEROLA; B. LEONARD BIRD;
ROBERT DILLARD: UNKNOWN PILOT
FBI FILE #: 97-230 (MIAMI)

14-00000

FBI DOCUMENT
DATE: 1 JUNE 1959
SUBJECT: RUBEN OSCAR MIRO GUARDIA
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
FILE#: MM 97-261

DEPT OF ARMY DOCUMENT
DATE: 13 MAY 1959
SUBJECT: JOSEPH R. MEROLA (SD 7083-A) (C)
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
FILE #: ACSI-CO

14-00000

FBI DOCUMENTS (SOME NOT COMPLETE)

DATE: 22 APRIL 1959
SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES
FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS - PANAMA
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
FILE: 109-12-223

DATE: 21 APRLL 1959
SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES
FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS - PANAMA
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
FILE: 109-12-223

DATE: 20 APRIL 1959
SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES
FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS - PANAMA
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
FILE: 109-12-223

DATE: 17 APRIL 1959
SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES
FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS - PANAMA
FILE: 109-12-223
CLASSIFICATION: NONE

DATE: 10 APRIL 1959
SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES
FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS - CUBA
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
FILE #: 109-12-223

DATE: 2 April 1959
SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES
FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTER - PANAMA
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
FILE: SAC, MIAMI (109-43)

DATE: 5 MARCH 1959
SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES
INTERNAL SECURITY - PANAMA
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
FILE: 109-12-223

14-00000

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OGC 77-2335
11 April 1977

David M. Curry, Esq.
First Assistant U.S. Attorney
Western District of Pennsylvania
633 U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Dear Mr. Curry:

Re: Joseph Raymond Merola

In response to your letter of March 10, 1977 I wish to advise you that the Central Intelligence Agency had one meeting with Joseph Raymond Merola prior to August 1961. In late 1960 Joseph Raymond Merola made several telephone calls to a CIA office offering his assistance in a general way in connection with Cuban matters, which was refused. However, on 6 February 1961 Merola claimed to have information on a Latin American senator who was a "close friend and confidant" of "Che" Guevera. Since Guevera was listed as being the subject of foreign intelligence requirements, the CIA employee agreed to meet with Mr. Merola. The meeting took place on 6 February 1961 and is the only meeting with Merola prior to his incarceration which you stated in your letter began in August 1961.

Mr. Merola was not employed by the Central Intelligence Agency. His contact with the CIA could not be described as an undercover Government informant as alleged in the Writs of Error Coram Nobis by Victor Carlucci and Daniel Hanna. This one contact on 6 February 1961 by Merola with the CIA was voluntary on his part.

Mathew McVane, an employee of the CIA, did testify in San Diego in November 1975 concerning CIA contacts with Joseph Raymond Merola. The citation we have for that case is U.S. v. Dalton C. Smith, et al. in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California, No. 74-2277-GT.

AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL 1776-1976

14-00000

The testimony given in that trial is not inconsistent with the response given above. It is true that after Merola was released from prison he again volunteered information to the CIA. Merola was a voluntary source of foreign intelligence.

I hope this provides sufficient information for you to file your response. If not, please call me at (AC 703) 351-7531.

Sincerely,

John K. Greaney

John K. Greaney
Associate General Counsel

cc: John Martin, Esq., Dept. of Justice

OGC/JKG/eb

UNCLASSIFIED | INTERNAL USE ONLY | CONFIDENTIAL | SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)
Joseph Raymond Merola

FROM:	EXTENSION	NO.
Maurice A. Sovern O/SA/DO/O 2D0109	1542	DATE 8 April 1977

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE RECEIVED	DATE FORWARDED	OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. Mr. Raymond Warren C/LA 3C2019 Hqs.	11 APR 1977		[illegible]	
2. DC/LA	11 APR 1977		[illegible]	
3. SR/LA	14		[illegible]	
4. File - 201				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				

FORM 3-62 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS | SECRET | CONFIDENTIAL | INTERNAL USE ONLY | UNCLASSIFIED

FOR CIA OFFICIALS ONLY

LITIGATION

8 April 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. John K. Greaney
Special Assistant to the
General Counsel

FROM : Maurice A. Sovern
O/SA/DO/O

SUBJECT : Joseph R. Merola

REFERENCE : Assistant United States Attorney, Pennsylvania Letter, 10 March 1977, Subject as Above

1. The question in reference is the nature of any involvement of Merola with CIA prior to August 1961.

2. The Directorate's first recorded contact with Joseph Raymond Merola prior to August 1961 occurred on 6 February 1961. It followed a series of telephone calls over a period of several months (late 1960 - early 1961) in which Merola had expressed interest in offering his assistance in connection with Cuban matters. Our officer had declined contact until 6 February when Merola claimed to have information on a Latin American senator who was a "close friend and confidante" of "Che" Guevera. Because Guevera was the proper subject of foreign positive intelligence collection requirement our officer agreed to a meeting.

3. The last recorded contact, except for the litigation outlined below, with Merola was a telephone contact with Merola in late July 1975 when he volunteered additional foreign positive intelligence.

4. At the end of August 1975, Merola contacted a staff officer to ask for testimony in the criminal fraud trial in San Diego, California (U.S. v. Joseph R. Merola, et al, Southern District of California, CR 74-2277-GT) which we subsequently

E2 IMPDET
CL BY 012860

FOR CIA OFFICIALS ONLY

provided on 13 November 1975.

5. Subject is characterized as a voluntary occasional source of foreign positive intelligence who was in sporadic contact with us.

6. We greatly appreciate the Assistant United States Attorney's concern for the confidentiality of our information. The information above may be made available to the AUSA and the court as appropriate without further restriction.

/s/
Maurice A. Sovern

O/SA/DO/O:MASovern:kaw (1542)

Distribution
Orig & 1 - OGC
1 - C/DCD
1 - C/LA
2 - SA/DO/O

14-00000

SPEED LETTER

REPLY REQUESTED		DATE
YES	NO	LETTER NO.

TO: ISS/PICG
ATTN: Frederic McCann

FROM: Crocky Lear
SA/LA

SUBJECT: Joseph R. Merola-Litigation
REFERENCE: ISS/PICG Memo dtd 17 March 1977

A review of the files confirms that the DDO was not in any way involved operationally with Joseph R. Merola prior to 1961. However, it should be noted that subsequent to his release from prison in November 1962, Merola was in contact with members of the Frente Revolucionario Democratico, an anti- Castro organization of interest to this Agency.

SIGNATURE

REPLY

DATE

SIGNATURE

RESPONDER'S FILE

1831

14-00000

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Litigation: Joseph L. Merola

FROM: Frederic McCann

ISS/PICC

EXTENSION: 1320

DATE: 17 March 1977

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE RECEIVED	DATE FORWARDED	OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. SA/LA/EICO 1H-3				
2.	3/	31		Bill: The Merola file is charged to MAS. When you're done drop at OGC in RI (1P) and cancel my charge, please. Maurice.
3. C2G/C125				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				[illegible handwritten comment]
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				

FORM 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS ☐ SECRET ☐ CONFIDENTIAL ☐ INTERNAL USE ONLY ☐ UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

17 March 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: SA/LA/EICO
DCD

FROM : Frederic McCann
ISS/PICG

SUBJECT : Litigation: Joseph R. Merola

1. Attached herewith is an unclassified memorandum received from OGC which requests information on the "extent and nature of any involvement of (Joseph R.) Merola with federal agencies prior to August 1961".

2. A review of 201-257804 reveals that Mr. Merola may have been in contact with WH/Miami in 1961 and was in contact with DCD prior to 1961.

3. Please review your files and provide whatever information is pertinent to paragraph 1., above. No information will be released outside of CIA without your concurrence.

4. 201-257804 is attached to the SA/LA/EICO copy of this memorandum. Please return it with your reply by 1 April 1977.

Frederic McCann

Attachments: a/s

CONFIDENTIAL

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 012420

DEPT OF JUSTICE DOCUMENT
SUBJECT: JOSEPH RAYMOND MEROLA
DATE: 10 MARCH 1977
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
FILE: NONE

trial, "actively engaged in the service of the government."

Irving Green, attorney for Carlucci and Hanna, said the prosecutors, Hubert I. Teitelbaum and Daniel J. Snyder, knew Merola was a government agent and therefore "perpetrated a fraud upon the trial court."

Teitelbaum and Snyder are now federal judges in Pittsburgh and have not commented about the action filed by Green, which is still pending. But an official familiar with their position said the two judges will, if necessary, swear they did not know Merola was a government agent.

Cuban Connection

"The answer to this whole thing revolves around Cuba," said this official.

Green, who represents Mannarino's son-in-law, said he didn't think Merola's testimony in Chicago had been particularly "helpful" to the prosecution. A "more logical assumption" is that Merola was freed from prison because of what he could do for the government in Cuba, he said.

"This guy works anywhere he wants to," said Green. "The government has protected him in California, Chicago and everywhere else. He still has to be of value to the government."

One thing is certain: Merola is well known in the Miami Cuban community and among those who have been linked to alleged Castro assassination attempts.

"Joe was an undercover agent, he was closely associated with the government," Frank Sturgis, of Miami, told The Bulletin. "He did have an association with the CIA."

Sturgis, who gained notoriety as one of those convicted in the Watergate burglary, was a top Castro lieutenant during the revolution who served as a double agent for the CIA. He later worked against Castro in the Bay of Pigs operation and has admitted plotting to kill Castro.

"I know Joe was involved with the revolutionaries," said Sturgis. "I know he had an association with the CIA, but because of compartmentalization, you don't know what they're doing."

Tied to Burglar

A source close to the House Assassinations Committee said Merola was "a good friend" of Eugenio (Rolando) Martinez, another of those convicted of the Watergate burglary. Martinez was associated with the CIA in the Bay of Pigs effort and in other anti-Castro moves.

"Joe's place in Miami Beach was on the water and it was used by anti-Castro groups to smuggle arms to Cuba," this source said. "Martinez was one of them."

"I can't recall," Martinez said, when asked by The Bulletin about using Merola's dock. "Really, I can't tell you anything about it.

"He was connected with helping people here in Miami against the dictatorship of Batista. He might have been in some other branch that I don't know about."

Alfredo Borges, a Miami business consultant and a Bay of Pigs veteran, told a Bulletin reporter inquiring about Merola to "please write me a letter."

"I don't know who you are," Borges said. "I cannot talk over the telephone."

One investigator interested in Merola said the matter is "very sensitive, records are hard to come by."

"He seems to fit everything," this investigator said. "He's a pilot, he speaks Spanish, he knows Cuba and he's connected. But nobody wants to cooperate."

A Scared Man

Records indeed are hard to come by. Official and unofficial attempts to obtain complete records of Merola's arrests proved fruitless. So did efforts to determine what encounters he might have had with officials responsible for watching the nation's borders.

But despite the belief of some that Merola enjoys the protection of the government while at the same time being welcomed by organized crime, those who know him say that is not the case.

"Joe has got a little money," said one Florida acquaintance. "I don't know where he gets it. But he's an informer and they hate informers. The man is concerned.

"He goes around Dade (County), but he is very, very careful where he goes. Joe is scared."

14-00000

TO: [illegible]

SUBJECT: Court Appearance on 13 November 1975, San Diego, California

1. On 13 November 1975, Matt MacVane appeared as a witness for the defense at the United States District Court for the Southern District of California, 325 West F Street, San Diego, California. The case was the United States of America V. Dalton C. Smith, et al. MacVane was called to testify by E. Mac Amos Jr., attorney for defendant Joe Merola. In honor of the subpoena MacVane appeared at the court. On 13 November 1975 at approximately 16:30 hours San Diego time MacVane was called to the witness stand.

2. Mac Amos, attorney for defendant Joe Merola began questioning after MacVane was sworn in as a witness. Amos asked how long MacVane had been employed by the CIA? He asked if MacVane knew defendant Merola? He asked if MacVane were told by Merola about a shipment of surplus helicopter parts going to the country of El Salvador? He asked MacVane if Merola had volunteered other information to the Agency? He then asked if Merola were ever paid for such information? Amos also tried to establish the value of surplus parts in Latin America compared to the US. This was objected to by attorney Robert Thaller, prosecutor in the case. The judge sustained the objection and MacVane did not have to answer the question. Amos finished his questioning and Thaller began a short cross examination. Thaller asked if MacVane ever heard Merola mention stocks? He also asked if MacVane knew the name of the corporation that Merola represented? He then pointed out that even if some stock fraud were occurring, MacVane would not be witting because MacVane was not an investigator, but rather a collector of foreign information. The cross examination then ended. All questions were answered to the best of MacVane's ability and knowledge.

3. There appeared to be little purpose in the appearance of MacVane because it was obvious that MacVane knew nothing of any value concerning the case. MacVane's total time on the witness stand was about 10 minutes. After completion of his testimony MacVane was released.

BRUCE E. MAINWARING

MCMacVane:ljh

E2 IMPDET CL BY 011663

GORDON THOMPSON
DISTRICT JUDGE

14-00000

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM

UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET

OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	Mr Barnes	6/4/71	[illegible]
2			
3	Mr. Young		Y
4			
5			
6	[illegible]		

	ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT		FILE		RETURN
	CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Any results of the meeting?

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
Lee [illegible]	

UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET

FORM NO. 237 Use previous editions
1-67 (40)

SECRET

6 November 1975

MEMO FOR RECORD:

RE: MEROLA, Joseph R.
201-257804
U.S. Citizen Registered to DEA/MIAMI Dec 74

FYI:
Today, Randy Daugherty, DCD case officer, asked to borrow subject 201 because he wanted to take it to Office of Genl. Counsel for Mr. John Greany.

There is to be a meeting today between Mr. Greany, Bob Starling, DCD COPS, and Matt McVane, DCD man in Miami who is visiting Hqs. McVane has an interest in MEROLA.

Told Randy that MEROLA was DEA source and that matter should be coordinated with NARCOG.

This transpired during lunch hour - Randy was in a hurry and I gave him file. He said he would tell Mr. Greany that Subj. was DEA source.

L.

SECRET

14-00000

OGC 75-4073

5 November 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Joseph Raymond Merola

1. On 3 November I talked to Mr. Matt McVane, DCD officer stationed in Miami, and he said that he had received the subpoena from E. Mac Amos, Jr. to appear as a defense witness in the trial in San Diego on 11 November. Mr. McVane agreed to come to Headquarters on 6 November to discuss the information in the files and Mr. Robert Starling of DCD agreed to join in the meeting. Mr. McVane told me that Lt. Colonel Douglas W. Haldane, who had previously been on detail to the DCD Miami Office, had returned to the Army and was currently assigned somewhere in Europe and that his address was Headquarters, USAREUR, APO New York, New York 09403.

2. Since this Office had received a letter from Mr. Amos with a request for the current address of Colonel Haldane, I called Mr. Amos on 4 November and explained to him that Colonel Haldane was no longer with the Central Intelligence Agency and it was our understanding that Colonel Haldane was stationed in Europe. Mr. Amos did not want the current address of Colonel Haldane. He did state, however, that Mr. McVane would not be needed in San Diego until Wednesday morning, 12 November. As things stood now, Mr. Merola was the fifth defendant and it would be that length of time before Mr. McVane's testimony would be needed.

3. Mr. McVane told me that he had been called by Mr. Robert Thaler of the U.S. Attorney's Office in California. I told Mr. McVane that I would contact Mr. Thaler. I called Mr. Thaler who is a a member of the Organized Crime Strike Force, Department of Justice, Room 2307, 300 North Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, telephone No. (AC 213) 688-5808. Mr. Thaler was pleased to hear that Mr. McVane

was being made available to testify and explained that he thought Mr. Amos had already prepared a motion to dismiss if Mr. McVane was to be denied as a witness for the defense. I explained to Mr. Thaler that Mr. McVane was coming to Headquarters on Thursday, 6 November, and said that we would call him to discuss the role Mr. McVane played in receiving information from Mr. Merola.

4. If this case runs parallel to many criminal prosecutions, the defense may never put Mr. McVane on the stand when he actually shows up as this may prove detrimental to their defense. However, we should be prepared for his testimony if, in fact, it does take place.

John K. Greaney
John K. Greaney
Associate General Counsel

cc: Chief, DCD
Matt McVane

OGC/JKG/eh
Distribution:
Original - OGC SUBJ: LITIGATION CRIMINAL
1 - JKG Signer
1 - Chrono

14-00000

John T. Holt
John Skyrstead Rhoades
Harrison R. Hollywood
Douglas R. Reynolds
David W. Ault
Michael L. Neil
Dan H. Deuprey
Thomas H. Ault
E. Mac Amos, Jr.
Thomas M. Dymott

HOLT, RHOADES AND HOLLYWOOD
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1010 SECOND AVENUE, SUITE 1712
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101

Area 714
Telephone 238-1712

October 28, 1975

Office of the General Counsel
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Sir:

Our firm represents Mr. Joseph Merola who is presently on trial as a defendant in the Southern District of California in an action entitled United States of America v. Dalton C. Smith, et al. (No. 74-2277-GT). In order to properly defend Mr. Merola, we need to utilize the testimony of Mr. Matt McVane and possibly the testimony of Col. Douglas Haldane. We understand that Mr. McVane is employed by the Central Intelligence Agency and works out of the Miami office. We also understand that Col. Douglas Haldane is employed by the Central Intelligence Agency but we do not have an address for service upon Col. Haldane.

Enclosed you will find copies of Subpoenas issued for Mr. McVane and Col. Haldane. These Subpoenas require the attendance of the individuals in the Southern District of California at San Diego, California on November 11, 1975 at 9:00 a.m. Enclosed you will also find a copy of the Order signed by Judge Gordon Thompson authorizing the issuance of the Subpoena for Mr. McVane. Since we do not have an address for Col. Haldane at this time, the court has not approved the issuance of a Subpoena for him in which the government would be responsible for all of the expenses and costs.

We have been informed by Mr. McVane that it is necessary for him to obtain the approval of your office before he can testify in this matter. Accordingly, we request that he be granted the necessary approval in order to allow him to testify in this matter. In addition, we request that we be provided with an address for Col. Haldane and that he also be allowed to testify in this case. We would appreciate being advised as soon as

possible with respect to whether these persons will be available for testimony. If we can provide any additional information with respect to this case, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned. Thank you for your courtesy and cooperation.

Very truly yours,

HOLT, RHOADES & HOLLYWOOD

By [signature]
E. Mac Amos, Jr.

EMA/db
Enclosures

14-00000

United States District Court

FOR THE

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

DALTON C. SMITH, et al.

No. 74-2277-GT

To MATT McVANE

You are hereby commanded to appear in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California in the city of San Diego at 325 West E Street on the 11th day of November 1975 at 9:00 o'clock A. M. to testify in the above-entitled case.

This subpoena is issued on application of the[1] defendant.

~~October 23~~, 1975

WILLIAM W. LUDDY
Clerk.

SEAL

ROSSIE GALLAGHER
Deputy Clerk.

~~E. MAC AMOS, JR.~~
Attorney for defendant MEROLA
1910 ~~Second Ave., Suite 1712~~
Address San Diego, CA 92101

RETURN

Received this subpoena at on and on at I served it on the within named by delivering a copy to and tendering[2] to the fee for one day's attendance and the mileage allowed by law.

By

Service Fees

Travel .... $
Services ....
Total .... $

[1] Insert "United States," or "defendant" as the case may be.
[2] Fees and mileage need not be tendered to the witness upon service of a subpoena issued in behalf of the United States or an officer or agency thereof, 28 USC 1825, or on behalf of a defendant who is financially unable to pay such costs (Rule 17 (b), Federal Rules Criminal Procedure).

United States District Court

FOR THE

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

DALTON C. SMITH, et al.

No. 74-2277-GT

To COL. DOUGLAS HALDANE

You are hereby commanded to appear in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California at 325 West F Street in the city of San Diego on the 11th day of November 19 75 at 9:00 o'clock A. M. to testify in the above-entitled case.

This subpoena is issued on application of the[1] defendant.

October 23, 19 75

E. MAC AMOS, JR.
Attorney for defendant MEROLA
Address 1010 Second Ave., Suite 1712
San Diego, CA 92101

SEAL

WILLIAM W. LUDDY, Clerk.

JESSIE GALLAGHER, Deputy Clerk.

RETURN

Received this subpoena at on and on at I served it on the within named by delivering a copy to and tendering[2] to the fee for one day's attendance and the mileage allowed by law.

Service Fees

By

Travel $
Services
Total $

[1] Insert "United States," or "defendant" as the case may be.
[2] Fees and mileage need not be tendered to the witness upon service of a subpoena issued in behalf of the United States or an officer or agency thereof. 28 USC 1825, or on behalf of a defendant who is financially unable to pay such costs (Rule 17 (b), Federal Rules Criminal Procedure).

14-00000

E. MAC AMOS, JR.
HOLT, RHOADES & HOLLYWOOD
1010 Second Avenue, Suite 1712
San Diego, CA 92101
(714) 238-1712

Attorneys for Defendant
JOSEPH R. MEROLA

FILED

OCT 22 1975

CLERK, US DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
By DEPUTY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff, v. JOSEPH R. MEROLA, et al., Defendants.	NO. CR 74-2277-GT ORDER FOR ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENAS

This court having considered the application of defend[ant] Joseph Merola, and the supporting affidavit of E. Mac Amos, Jr. for issuance of subpoenas directed to Edward Stanton and Matt McVane and having found that good cause exists for the issuance of said subpoenas,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the clerk of this court issu[e] subpoenas requiring the attendance of Matt McVane and Edward Stanton on November 11, 1975 at 9:00 a.m. in this court and, further, that all costs and fees in relation to the attendance o[f] said witnesses shall be borne by the United States under the provisions of the Criminal Justice Act.

DATED: OCT 22 1975

BY: GORDON THOMPSON, JR
GORDON THOMPSON
DISTRICT JUDGE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFOR[NIA]

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1010 SECOND AVENUE, SUITE 1712
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101
PHONE 236-1712

14-00000

24 October 75

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Joseph Raymond Merola

1. On 23 October, Mr. Robert Starling of DCD called to say that Matthew McVane (phonetic), a DCD officer who is stationed in Miami, Florida, had received a telephone call from a San Diego attorney saying that he was mailing a subpoena to him. The attorney, E. Mac Amos, Jr., is a member of the law firm of Holt, Rhodes and Hollywood at 1010 Second Avenue, San Diego, California 92101, telephone No. (AC 714) 238-1712. Mr. Amos advised Mr. McVane that the subpoena was for his appearance on behalf of Mr. Merola who was on trial in San Diego.

2. Mr. Starling indicated that the charges against Merola had something to do with exporting airplane parts without a license. I called Mr. Clyde Bryant, Office of Munitions Control, Department of State, to determine if this prosecution was related to 22 U.S.C. 1934. Mr. Bryant called back and said that Merola was one of seven defendants being tried on criminal fraud charges for having engaged in a flimflam operation against the Salvadorian government. The scheme was to establish a facility in Salvador to assemble and service helicopters. The group had assembled a collection of Army surplus parts for helicopters and was in the process of shipping them without an export license and they were seized by U.S. Customs officers on 21 February 1974. Mr. Bryant indicated that the Assistant U.S. Attorney in San Diego in charge of the prosecution was a Mr. Robert Thaller, telephone No. (AC 714) 293-5668. Mr. Bryant also indicated that an individual by the name of Henry Maierhoffer was also one of the defendants and it was Mr. Bryant's recollection that Maierhoffer had some previous connection with CIA.

3. I called Mr. Starling and reported this information to him and he said that Mr. Merola was a real operator in the Miami area, always involved in some scheme to buy and sell weapons but that he had volunteered information to the DCD Office, some of which was useful. I asked Mr. Starling to have Mr. McVane call me when he got the subpoena but that he would not have to go unless they furnished the travel funds.

John K Greaney

John K. Greaney
Associate General Counsel

cc: Chief/DCD

Distribution - OVER

14-00000

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET
(When Filled In)

30 Jan 1975

201 File on U.S. Citizen

The 201 file on Merola (surname) (201 number indicated below) can be most accurately be categorized as indicated below:

___ should be closed.

___ witting collaborator. OI Code A1.

___ potential witting collaborator; date opened ____________ OI Code A2.

___ former witting collaborator (relationship terminated). OI Code A3.

___ potential witting collaborator never contacted (security reasons, derogatory information). OI Code A4.

___ counterintelligence case (i.e., involving a foreign intelligence or security service). OI Code A5.

X all others. OI Code A6. ISR

Signed ____________ (name) C/LSN/ISR (title) ____________ (component)

This assignment of category has been entered into STAR.

Signed ____________ (initials) ____________ (date) 1975

This document is a permanent part of this file.

201-257804

CONFIDENTIAL

E2 IMPDET
CL BY 002216

SECRET
(When Filled In)

14-00000

OUTGOING MESSAGE

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1

CLASSIFICATION

S E C R E T

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR: STAFF

DATE TIME GROUP: 091910Z

CITE: DIRECTOR

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER: 641466

CONF: LA8 INFO: FILE (P/AN, LSN/MIL, OPS/INT, C/OPS2, OPS/NARC2, LSN/ID,

DISSEM BY: 32

0 INDEX 0 NO INDEX 0 RETURN TO PER 0 IP FILES #

TO: LA/MIAMI INFO CARACAS, PORT AU PRINCE, BOGOTA. Y

MHABYSS PBRAMPART Y

REF: A. LA/MIAMI 22730 |IN 432300*| (NOT NEEDED CARACAS, PORT AU PRINCE, BOGBOBTA)

B. DIRECTOR 630872 |**| (NOT NEEDED CARACAS, PORT AU PRINCE, BOGOTA) Y

1. JOSEPH RAYMOND M E R O L A (201-257804) WAS REGISTERED IN ISR TO DEA/MIAMI ON 18 DEC 74 AS A COOPERATING INDIVIDUAL FOR USE IN HAITI AND COLOMBIA. IT IS REQUESTED THAT LA/MIAMI ADVISE DEA/MIAMI TO CONTACT THE FBI AND DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON MEROLA. Y

2. FOR CARACAS, PORT AU PRINCE, BOGOTA: IN JUNE 74, DEA HQS INFORMED BKHERALD THAT MEROLA WAS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST. DEA REQUESTED TRACES AND STATED MEROLA REPORTEDLY WORKED FOR BKHERALD IN LATE 1950'S. WE REPLIED THAT MEROLA HAD NEVER WORKED FOR BKHERALD, ALTHOUGH WE WERE AWARE THAT HE HAD MADE SUCH CLAIMS ON NUMBER OF PREVIOUS INSTANCES. Y

3. FILE: 201-257804. E2, IMPDET.H

LSN/ISR 9 JAN 75

201-257804

DATE: 8 JANUARY 1975
ORIG: DARYL GEIXLER:LH
UNIT: LA/CAR/CAR
EXT: 1249

* REF A REQUESTED TRACES & REGISTRATION OF MEROLA
** REF B FORWARDED TRACES.

LA/NARC

DDO/NARCOG

LSN/ISR

COORDINATING OFFICERS

DAVID A. PHILLIPS
C/LA
RELEASING OFFICER

ALFONSO SPERA
C/LA/CAR
AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

S E C R E T

RECORD COPY

E 2 IMPDET
CL BY: 010116

14-00000

☐ UNCLASSIFIED ☐ INTERNAL USE ONLY ☐ CONFIDENTIAL ☒ SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT (Optional)
REGISTRATION REQUEST

FROM:	EXTENSION	NO.
OPS/LSN/INTERAGENCY SOURCE REGISTER BU-5	1064/ 5045	ISRM 39170
		DATE 10 DEC 1974

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE RECEIVED	DATE FORWARDED	OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. IP/AIS HT-3	12/11		mb	Hit!
2.				
3. IP/EIB DW-7				
4.				
5. IP/RMS DW-6				
6.				
7. IP/LDI GT-6			M	
8.				
9. LSN/ISR BU-5				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				

FILE NO. 201- 0257804	
DOCUMENT DATE	
ABSTRACT	X

FORM 3-62 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS ☒ SECRET ☐ CONFIDENTIAL ☐ INTERNAL USE ONLY ☐ UNCLASSIFIED

14-00000

SECRET (When Filled In)

NAC's Conducted
July 1972 - FBI/P
Oct 1972 - State/P
CSC - N
DCDCI - N

17 DEC

ISR LOG	NAT. FILE NO.	DATE
	NEW	RE-REGISTRATION
	UTILIZATION	RE-CHECK
	DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS SPACE	
	TO: DCD	TO: SECURITY ✓
	TO:	TO:
16 DEC 1974	ISRM NO.	201 NO.
NAME		

FORM 1797 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS 2-74

SECRET 11 DEC 1974 (4-38)

SECRET (When Filled In)

No Objection to Registration. DCS reserves the right to [illegible] with it [illegible] in accordance DCID 2/5 [illegible] NSCID 2, by mutual agreement if his intended use so requires.

DOMESTIC COLLECTION DIVISION
Support Branch/Operational Support Section
Room 900, K. Building - ext. 2268

ISR LOG	NAT. FILE NO.	DATE 9 Dec 74
	NEW	RE-REGISTRATION
	UTILIZATION	RE-CHECK
	DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS SPACE	
	TO: DCD	TO: SECURITY
	TO:	TO:
	ISRM NO. 39,170	201 NO.
NAME 13 DEC 1974		

FORM 1797 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS 2-74

SECRET (4-38)

14-00000

SECRET
(When Filled In)

REQUEST FOR REGISTRATION IN THE INTERAGENCY SOURCE REGISTER

REQUESTER: Daryl ~~XXXX~~ Geisler LA/CARI	DATE SUBMITTED: 9 Dec 1974
DEA | 201- 257804	DATE RECEIVED IN ISR: 9 Dec 74
XX NEW | RE-REGISTRATION | RE-CHECK	UTILIZATION

NAME (Last, First, Middle): MEROLA, Joseph Raymond

ALIASES AND/OR SPELLING VARIATIONS: | SEX: M

DATE OF BIRTH: 9 Oct 1925 | PLACE OF BIRTH: NEW JERSEY | CITIZENSHIP: U.S.

RESIDENCE: 135 Dupont Plaza, Miami, Fla

PRESENT EMPLOYER: | OCCUPATION: Pilot

ADDITIONAL IDENTIFYING DATA (including references):

Based on LA/Miami 22730 IN 432300, 3 Dec 74 (attached)
Traces sent DIRECTOR 630872, 6 Dec 74 (attached)
Send cards to UFP 872 HVC HLB HTP

IP/AIS TRACE RESULTS

FNUS LISTED REF merola

IP/EIB REMARKS

NAI TO THAT KNOWN TO THE REQUESTER (OUTGOING CABLE) (630872)

16 DEC 1974

ISR REPLY TO REQUESTER: | DATE: 18 Dec 74 | ISRN NUMBER: 39,170

1. Nothing in addition to that ~~xx~~ known by the requester. ~~XXXXX~~ For possible further information you are referred to the FBI and the Department of State.

2. The ISR has no record of a current operational interest in ~~XXXXX~~ Subject who is hereby registered in the ISR to DEA Miami.

EVB

WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

Classified by 002216. Exempt from general declassification schedule of E. O. 11652, exemption category: 5B.1., (2), (3) or 4 (circle one or more) Automatically declassified on (unless impossible, insert date or event)

FORM 1797

SECRET

14-00000

FORM 3009
1-71 MPG 3 76

CABLE SEC DISSEM BY 9/1st PER Sep/103 TOTAL COPIES 15-1 RUN BY

SECRET

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

PERSON UNIT NOTIFIED

ADVANCE COPY ISSUED SLOTTED 9/LA BY A AT 1835 Z

STAFF PRECEDENCE

ACTION UNIT C/LA 6

ACTION #

INFO: RF FILE VR DDO, C/IO/AN, C/OPS/NAR 2, C/OPS, C/LSN/NIL

T 617399 EIA292 PAGE 01 IN 432300

TOR:032226Z DEC 74 LMIN 22730

Ruth
Dick
Darryl (action)

S E C R E T 032214Z DEC 74 STAFF

CITE LA/MIAMI 22730

TO: PRIORITY DIRECTOR.

RYBAT FLMHABYSS PBRAMPART

REF: UFPS-1727, 25 OCT 74

1. PLEASE PROVIDE PRIORITY TRACES ON THE FOLLOWING DEA NARCOTICS SOURCE AND REGISTER IN THE INTER-AGENCY SOURCE REGISTER (ISR):

JOSEPH RAYMOND M E R O L A (201-257804)

DPOB: 9 OCT 25 IN NEW JERSEY

U.S. CITIZEN

OCC: PILOT

ADD: 135 DUPONT PLAZA, MIAMI, FL.

LOCATION OF USE: COLOMBIA AND HAITI

2. PER REF, ATT. NO. 2 PLS PROVIDE PRIORITY TRACES ON DEA NARCOTICS SOURCE ORLANDO B A T I S T A VIERA, AND ADVISE IF REGISTERED IN ISR.

3. FILE: 200-11-111 200-11-11/17. E2, IMPDET

SECRET

14-00000

SECRET

DO DOCUMENT EXTRACT

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SUBJECT OF THIS 201 DOSSIER HAS BEEN EXTRACTED FROM ANOTHER OFFICIAL DO FILE. PERSONS PERFORMING NAME TRACES ARE CAUTIONED THAT THE DOCUMENT FROM WHICH THIS EXTRACT WAS PREPARED CONTAINS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE SUBJECT AND SHOULD BE REQUESTED FROM IP/FILES.

MEROLA, JOSEPH RAYMOND
201-0257804 200-011-011/19
SEX M DOB 09 OCT 25 LMIM-22730
POB USA, NJ 03 DEC 74
CIT USA
OCC PILOT

RES USA, FLA, MIAMI, 135 DUPONT PLAZA. TRACES
DEA NARCS

DATE 05 MAR 75 CORR CARD 09231716

201-0257804

SECRET E2 IMPDET CL BY 054979

14-00000

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

12 JUN 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Lucien E. Conein
Acting Chief, Special Operations and Field Support Staff
Office of Intelligence
Drug Enforcement Administration

VIA: Mr. John Warner
Chief, International Intelligence Division

SUBJECT: Name Trace

REFERENCE: Memorandum, Same Subject, SEC-IGI-74-0037, dated June 5, 1974

1. The matter of Joseph R. Merola (Reference) has been discussed between Mr. Richard Kobakoff of your office and Mr. Stanley Archenhold of this office. Mr. Merola has never worked for this Agency, although we are aware he has made such claims on a number of previous instances.

2. It is suggested that you contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation for information concerning Merola.

Seymour R. Bolten
Seymour R. Bolten
Special Assistant for
Narcotics Control Operations

DONC 74-052

THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT TO BE DISSEMINATED ABROAD OR OUTSIDE THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE RECEIVING AGENCY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE ORIGINATOR

EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF E. O. 11652, EXEMPTION CATEGORY: 5 B (2)
DECLASSIFICATION DATE IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE
CLASSIFIED BY 003604

201-257504

SECRET

SECRET

DONC 74-052

DDO/OPS/NARCOG:S.Archenhold:el

COORDINATION: /s/ (see) WH/NARC — 12 DATE

Distribution:

Orig. & 1 - Addressee
1 - WH/NARC
1 - 201-257804
1 - DDO/NARCOG DONC File

SECRET

DEPT OF JUSTICE DOCUMENT
DATE: 5 JUNE 1974
SUBJECT: NAME TRACE
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
FILE #: NONE GIVEN

14-00000

DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION
SECRET

PROCESSING ACTION
MARKED FOR INDEXING
NO INDEXING REQUIRED
ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING
MICROFILM

TO: Chief of Station, San Salvador

INFO:

FROM: Chief, Western Hemisphere Division

SUBJECT: AMEMB SAN SALVADOR 0048, 5 February 1974

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES

Headquarters requested LNERGO traces on Larry A. C a r r, because of his business association with Joseph R. M e r o l a. Trace results were negative.

MAD
Marilyn A. DAKOSKI

DISTRIBUTION:
Orig. & 1 - COS, San Salvador

E2 IMPDET
CL BY 031685

RECORD COPY

CROSS REFERENCE TO	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER	DATE
	HSSW-3154	typed 1 April 1974
	CLASSIFICATION: SECRET	HQS FILE NUMBER: 201-257804

1 - Chrono
1 - IP/AN

ORIGINATING

OFFICE	OFFICER	TYPIST	EXT
WH/2/GS	Patti Burke	mll	1454

COORDINATING

OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE	OFFICER'S NAME
C/WH/2/GS		George Colman

RELEASING

AC/WH/2 — James M. Lawler

DISPATCH

14-00000

F-4-2849

033-559-74
22 March 1974

Chief, WH/2
ATTN : David L. Smock

Chief, Domestic Collection Division

Joseph E. Merola

REF : Your Memorandum of 11 March 1974

1. For your information, subject has been a volunteer source since 1961. DCD is aware of his unsavory record, but he has from time-to-time produced information of interest.

2. DCD wishes to advise you, however, that we have broken off contact with Merola. Should he contact DCD again, we are obligated to listen politely, take down his information for transmittal to the appropriate area desk, and make absolutely no promises for future contact.

3. Please direct further inquiries to Mr. Evan B. Ames, DCD/Support Branch/Operational Support Section, Room 910, Key Building, extension 2263.

JACKSON R. HORTON

EVAN B. AMES/b
cc: Services Branch (Control)

FILE: HH-25826

SLO

SECRET

E-2 IMPDET CL BY 010659

DEPT OF STATE DOCUMENT
DATE: 19 MARCH 1974
SUBJECT: PATTERSON CORPORATION (CENTRAL AMERICAN AEROSCAPE)
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
NO FILE # GIVEN

[illegible]

MEROLA

SECRET

11 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Domestic Collection Division

ATTENTION: Mr. Shaun P. Ryan

SUBJECT: Joseph R. MEROLA

REFERENCE: HH 25826, 8 January 1974

1. On 10 January 1974 the WH/2/GS desk received the referenced memorandum from the Domestic Collection Division indicating the Miami field office had been in contact with one Joseph R. MEROLA. MEROLA had just returned from a business trip to El Salvador; and he reported that a friend of his had identified a Mr. Gremillion in the Political Section of the American Embassy in San Salvador as a suspect CIA representative. Headquarters traces on Joseph R. MEROLA indicated that on several occasions in the past MEROLA had claimed that he was a CIA agent. The Chief of Station, the Mr. Gremillion referred to above, was recently questioned regarding any Embassy contact with MEROLA while the latter was in San Salvador. The COS stated that both within the Embassy community and at social functions MEROLA had frequently referred to his contact with the CIA, past and present. He also volunteered this information to a former Station contact.

2. In light of the above, it would appear that MEROLA had taken advantage of his agency contacts in an inappropriate manner to the potential embarrassment of the San Salvador Station. We would, accordingly, appreciate that this be given due consideration in your assessment of the advantage of your continued contact with him.

David L. Smock
C/WH/2

E2 IMPDET
CL BY 509407

SECRET

14-00000

TRANSMITTAL SLIP | DATE

TO: LW H | 2 | GS - Patti

ROOM NO. | BUILDING

REMARKS:

Reply from State

FROM: OPS/LSN

ROOM NO. | BUILDING | EXTENSION

FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 55 REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED. (47)

14-00000

SPEED LETTER	REPLY REQUESTED: X YES / NO	DATE: 6 February 1974
		LETTER NO.

TO: OPS/LIAISON
ATTN:

FROM: WH/2/GS

Request Dept. of State Passport Office biographic information on Larry A. CARR, U.S. citizen, currently in El Salvador negotiating on behalf of the Patterson Corp. to build a helicopter plant.

Patti Burke WH/2/GS

SIGNATURE

REPLY

DATE

SIGNATURE

FORM 1831 5-67 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

14-00000

DEPT OF STATE DOCUMENT (PASSPORT DIVISION)
DATE: 20 FEBRUARY 1974
SUBJECT: LARRY ALTON CARR
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
FILE #: NONE

14-00000

STATE DEPT DOCUMENTS:

DATE: 13 FEBRUARY 1974
SUBJECT: PATTERSON CORPORATION (CENTRAL AMERICAN AEROSPACE)
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
NO FILE # GIVEN (DOC #: SAN SALV. 0568)

DATE: 5 FEBRUARY 1974
SUBJECT: PROPOSED HELICOPTER/AIRCRAFT PLANT (PATTERSON CORP.)
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
NO FILE # GIVEN (DOC #: SAN SAL. 0048)

DATE: 5 FEBRUARY 1974
SUBJECT: PROPOSED HELICOPTER/AIRCRAFT PLANT (PATTERSON CORP.)
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
NO FILE # GIVEN
DOCUMENT #: SAN SALVADOR 0448

Patti,

We have sent a private channel letter to the COS on this matter, notingxatxtxxxxxx asking at the end for comments as to whether MOROLA is "embarrassing" the Station or CIA generally by talking so much about his CIA connections. If his reply is in the affirmative, I it will probably be best for you to draft a note to DCDx DCD suggesting that he somehow be silenced, perhaps by their withdrawing from contact with them since it is obviously something that he brags about and otherwise tried to take advantage of

gtc.

Matt MacVane, DCD officer in Miami, met with Joseph R. MEROLA on 15 January 1974; at which time MEROLA identified the friend in San Salvador who had identified Mr. Gremillion in the American Embassy in San Salvador as a CIA representative. [redacted] MEROLA also provided the names of two women employed in the Embassy who were ~~xspsxtxt~~ involved in compromising situations with both Americans and local nationals. MEROLA identified the two women as Nancy SHALLOT and Delia OBESA. MEROLA was met again on 17 January 1974 ~~xnxsffarxxtaxdatarmiasxxayxsthaxpassibiex~~ at which time he provided the name of a third woman in the Embassy, Gloria, who has also been involved in compromising situations. Upon ~~qaxax~~ inquiring Headquarters personnel who had recently returned from San Salvador, the above identities were confirmed; all three are American citizens assigned to the Embassy in San Salvador.

Above is a note dated 24 January 1974 from Patti Burke, WH/2/GS/IA, based on information received orally from DCD.

SECRET

SPEED LETTER	REPLY REQUESTED: YES / NO	DATE: 23 January 1974 / LETTER NO.: OSS-172-74

TO : Chief, WH/2/GS (3 B 4402 Hqs.) ATTN: Patty Burke	FROM: DCD/SB/OSS SPRyan/ds

SUBJECT: Case 61401 - Joseph Merola

On 18 January 1974, our Miami Field Office advised us of the name of a third person reportedly involved in potentially compromising situations who works at the Embassy. This person was identified as "Gloria" by our source. This information passed verbally to El Salvador Desk Officer on 18 January 1974.

E-2 IMPDET CL B 010650

SHAUN P. RYAN

SIGNATURE

REPLY	DATE

SECRET

SIGNATURE

RETURN TO ORIGINATOR

FORM 5-67 1831 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

14-00000

STATE DEPT DOCUMENT
DATE: 22 JANUARY 1974
SUBJECT: PROPOSED HELICOPTER/AIRCRAFT PLANT
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
DOCUMENT #: SAN SALV 0256

14-00000

UNCLASSIFIED | INTERNAL USE ONLY | CONFIDENTIAL | SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Case 61401 - CIA Operative in El Salvador

FROM: DOMESTIC COLLECTION DIVISION
Support Branch/Operational Support Section
Room 900, Key Building - ext. 2268
Mr. Shaun P. Ryan [signature]

EXTENSION | NO.

DATE: 18 January 1974

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE RECEIVED	DATE FORWARDED	OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. WH/2/GS Attn. Patty Burke 3 B 4402 Hqs.				The attached is for your information and possible interest. (OSS-142-74)
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				E 2 IMPDET CL BY 00..22
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				

FORM 3-62 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS | SECRET | CONFIDENTIAL | INTERNAL USE ONLY | UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET/SENSITIVE

OSS-142-74
18 January 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Case 61401 - CIA Operative in El Salvador

REFS : A.) MIM-006-74, 4 January 1974
B.) TWX DCD/Washington 96860, 10 January 1974
C.) Ryan/MacVane telecon 16 January 1974
D.) Ryan/MacVane telecon 17 January 1974
E.) Ryan/Mainwaring telecon 17 January 1974
F.) TWX DCD/Miami 12475, 17 January 1974
G.) TWX DCD/Miami 12476, 17 January 1974

1. One of our sources in Miami, Joseph Merola, revealed the name and position of an individual reported to be an Agency official in El Salvador to Matt MacVane during the course of an interview on 21 December 1973. This was reported in MIM-006-74 4 January 1974. This report was forwarded to the El Salvador Desk on 8 January 1974. On 16 January 1974 the Desk requested that DCD obtain the name of the individual mentioned in this memorandum who said he knew a CIA officer in the Embassy. This request was passed by telecon and TWX to MacVane by Ryan on 16 January 1974. The El Salvador Desk also questioned the reliability of our source, Joseph Merola, at this time and requested we query Miami as to his reliability.

2. On 17 January 1974 at the request of MacVane, Ryan visited the El Salvador Desk to ascertain their objections to our source, known to us as a convicted felon. Desk objections stemmed from a 1964 report which indicated that Merola had informed persons that he was a "CIA agent". Further conversation elicited the fact that Merola had again made this statement in 1973 at an Embassy function. We advised the Desk that DCD was well aware of Merola's criminal background but that he had provided DCD with reliable reports in the past unrelated to his own "pursuits".

3. The El Salvador desk confirmed the fact that the individual mentioned by Merola's informant as being a CIA officer was in fact such. Ryan advised MacVane of this per telecon on 17 January 1974. MacVane and Mainwaring told Ryan they were sending two cables relating to this case. The first would provide the name of the person who reportedly knew the CIA official. The second provided the names of two women employed in the Embassy who were reportedly involved in

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

SECRET/SENSITIVE

compromising situations with both Americans and local nationals. This latter cable was requested after the El Salvador desk officer advised that all avenues and possible leads were to be pursued to determine who leaked the information relating to the CIA official. These two names (phonetically spelled) were provided in the second cable by Miami. All of the information received in these cables was passed via secure phone to the El Salvador desk by Ryan upon receipt.

4. MacVane advised Ryan via telecon that he anticipated meeting with Joseph Merola at 1400 on 17 January to address further matters concerned with this case. MacVane advised Ryan that he would forward such information as soon as possible.

SEAN P. RYAN

cc: Miami Field Office
cc: WH/2/GS
cc: Sensitive Control Officer

S E C R E T 171845Z JAN 74 STAFF

CITE DCD/MIAMI 12476

DCD/WASHINGTON

ATTN: SUPPORT BRANCH/OSS (S.RYAN)

SUBJ: CASE 61401

REF : OOA(S) 322/02566-74

THE IDENTITIES OF THE TWO GIRLS WHO WERE THE SUBJECT OF OUR TELECON ARE:

NANCY SHALLOT

DELIA OBESA

BOTH SPELLINGS ARE PHONETIC, BUT SHOULD BE IDENTIFIABLE. ONE IS SUPPOSEDLY SECRETARY TO MR. TAYLOR. E2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

S E C R E T

JAN 17 1 51 PM '74

SECRET

JAN 17 1 51 PM '74

S E C R E T 171845Z JAN 74 STAFF

CITE DCD/MIAMI 12476

DCD/WASHINGTON

ATTN: SUPPORT BRANCH/OSS (S.RYAN)

SUBJ: CASE 61421

REF : OUA(S) 322/02566-74

THE IDENTITIES OF THE TWO GIRLS WHO WERE THE SUBJECT OF OUR TELECON ARE:

NANCY SHALLOT

DELIA OBESA

BOTH SPELLINGS ARE PHONETIC, BUT SHOULD BE IDENTIFIABLE. ONE IS SUPPOSEDLY SECRETARY TO MR. TAYLOR. E2 IMPDET CL BY 010652

S E C R E T

OUTGOING MESSAGE

12-2

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0

PAGE 1 OF PAGES

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR: STAFF

DATE-TIME GROUP: 172306Z

CITE: DIRECTOR

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER: 502254

CONF: WHS INFO: FILE 11/w/, DCD,

DISSEM BY: 29

INDEX / NO INDEX / RETURN TO PER

TO: PRIORITY SAN SALVADOR INFO WH/MIAMI.

REFS: A. SAN SALVADOR 20685 |IN 134684*|

B. WH/MIAMI 20664 |IN 135313**|

C. WH/MIAMI 20685 |IN 137730***|

1. FOLLOWING INFO IN ADDITION TRACES REF B: JOSEPH RAYMOND M E R O L A (201-257804). PER DBA 62712, 13 APR 64, SUBJ CLAIMED HE CIA AGENT AND ALLEGED CIA OBTAINED PRESIDENTIAL PARDON FIVE YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR RUNNING GUNS CUBA. IN ADDITION CLAIMED CIA ISSUED PASSPORT IN NAME MICHAEL JOSEPH M E R O L A FOR TRAVEL CENTRAL AMERICA.

2. PER HQS RECORDS, MEROLA NOT CIA AGENT, BUT HAS BEEN DCD CONTACT SINCE EARLY SIXTIES.

3. 21 DEC 73 MEROLA CONTACTED DCD MIAMI TO ADVISE HE RECENTLY SPOKE WITH FRIEND IN SAN SALVADOR WHO WORKS FOR ANSESAL. FRIEND ADVISED MEROLA NOT GO US EMBASSY SAN SALVADOR TO SEE A MAN NAMED GREMILLION BECAUSE GREMILLION, WHO US EMBASSY POLITICAL SECTION OFFICER UNDER SURVEILLANCE ON SUSPICION OF BEING CIA REP SAN SALVADOR. MEROLA TOLD FRIEND HE NEITHER KNEW NOR WOULD HAVE CAUSE TO

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

201-257804
17 Jan 74

RECORD COPY

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

E 2 IMPDET
CL BY 031685

SECRET

OUTGOING MESSAGE

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0

PAGE 2 OF PAGES 2

CLASSIFICATION
S E C R E T

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR | DATE-TIME GROUP | CITE | MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

STAFF DIRECTOR

CONF: INFO: FILE

0 INDEX DISSEM BY:
0 NO INDEX
0 RETURN TO PER
0 IP FILES #

502254

SEE SUCH A MAN. FRIEND TOLD MEROLA HE ONLY TELLING HIM FOR HIS OWN GOOD BECAUSE IF MEROLA SAW GREMILLION, MEROLA WOULD BECOME A SUSPECT CIA AGENT AS WELL.

4. DCD MIAMI RECONTACTED MEROLA 15 JANUARY DETERMINE ~~ABOVE~~ IDENTITY "FRIEND" IN SAN SALVADOR. FRECDIEND IDENTIFIED AS GUILLERMO R O BFE D E R, (POSS. ALSO SUBJECT 201-873126) PRESIDENT INSAFI, MARRIED TO SECRETARY AT US EMBASSY IN SALVADOR, CURRENTLY ON MATERNITY LEAVE.

5. MEROLA TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFO AT MTG WITH DCD MIAMI 17 JAN 74. WILL ADVISE.

6. FILE: 201-257804. E2 IMPDET.H

WH COMMENT: *REQUESTED HQS TRACES JOSEPH MEROLA, WHO CELAIMED TO BE AERONAEUTICAL CONSULTANT WITH PATTERSON AIRCRAFT COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA

**WH/MIAMI TRACE REPLY

***NEGATIVE SLIGO BTRACES

DATE: 17 JAN 74
ORIG: PATTI BURKE
UNIT: WH/2/GS
EXT: 1868

WDCD SHAUN RYAN (DRAFT)
WH/PERMS W. LAYBOURNE (DRAFT)
C/WH/COG O. BATHE (DRAFT)

C/WHD
C/WH/2

RELEASING OFFICER | COORDINATING OFFICERS | AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

E 2 IMPDET
CL BY: 031685

S E C R E T

14-00000

CABLE SEC DISSEM BY 1 PER TOTAL COPIES 16-1 RUN BY

PERSON/UNIT NOTIFIED

SECRET

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

ADVANCE COPY ISSUED/SLOTTED BY AT Z

STAFF

ACTION UNIT WH 8

ACTION #

INFO: RF. FILE VR. island clips ops/nar. 2

T 009803 PAGE 01-01 IN 137730

TOR:151451Z JAN 74 WHIM 20685

S E C R E T 142112Z JAN 74 STAFF

CITE WH/MIAMI 20685

TO: SAN SALVADOR INFO DIRECTOR.

REF: A. SAN SALVADOR 20665 (IN 134684)

B. WH/MIAMI 20654 (IN 135313)

1. NO ADDITIONAL SLIGO TRACES ON JOSEPH M E R O L A.

2. FILE: 200-11-11/3. E-2, IMPDET.

WH/2/B

S E C R E T

14-00000

STATE DEPT DOCUMENT
SUBJECT: PROPOSED HELICOPTER/AIRCRAFT PLANT
DATE: 17 JANUARY 1974
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
DOCUMENT #: SAN SALVADOR 00193
NO FILE # GIVEN.

CABLE SEC DISSEM BY 42 PER ______ TOTAL COPIES 16-2 RUN BY ______

PERSON/UNIT NOTIFIED ______

SECRET

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

STAFF

ADVANCE COPY ISSUED/SLOTTED ______ BY ______ AT ______

ACTION UNIT: WH 8

OPS/NAR 2

T 823593 PAGE 01 IN 135313

TOR:1121192 JAN 74 WHIM 20664

S E C R E T 1120592 JAN 74 STAFF

CITE WH/MIAMI 20664

TO: SAN SALVADOR INFO DIRECTOR.

REF: SAN SALVADOR 20685 (IN 134684)

1. JOSEPH R. M E R O L A, DPOB 9 OCT 1925, TURTLE CREEK, PA. STATION CARDS FROM PERIOD 1959-1963 INDICATE HE EX-CONVICT, NOTORIOUS SMUGGLER, GUNRUNNER AND GENERAL TROUBLE-MAKER. CARDS TO LNERGO REPORTS INDICATE HE WAS INVOLVED IN PANAMA INVASION PLAN IN 1959, ANDIN HAITIAN INVASION PLANS IN 1958 AND 1963. IN 1959, HE WAS UNDER INDICTMENT IN PA. FOR INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN ARMS. IN 1960, HE WAS PRINCIPAL IN PROPOSED CUBAN COUNTERFEIT PESO DEAL. LNERGO WAS CONTACTED IN 1961, AND INDICATED THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD LONG RECORD, HE UNDOUBTEDLY COULD SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. ALSO IN 1961, HE WAS INTERESTED IN PROVIDING CONTRABAND WHISKEY TO A [illegible] SENATOR, AND ATTEMPTED [illegible] RESTRICTION" WHICH PLACED ON HIM AFTER CONVICTION FOR [illegible] CLADESTINELY BRINGING IN TO U.S. THE SON OF [illegible] DICTATOR

CABLE SEC DISSEM BY ______ PER ______ TOTAL COPIES ______ RUN BY

SECRET

PERSON/UNIT NOTIFIED ______

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

STAFF

ACTION UNIT ______ RF. FILE VR

ACTION #

TOR:112119Z JAN 74 WHIM 20664

FULGENCIO BATISTA, OR FOR CHARGE THAT HE INVOLVED IN THEFT OF GUNS FROM NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY."

2. SUBJECT NOT LISTED 1973 MIAMI TELEPHONE BOOK. LATEST ADDRESS IN CARDS IS: 2218 NORTH BAY RD, MIAMI BEACH, FLA. HE WAS VISITED AT THIS ADDRESS IN 1961 BY MBR OF SLIGO ORGANIZATION, WHO DESCRIBED HOME AS "PALATIAL".

3. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO RECENT INFO ON SUBJECT, SUGGEST THAT HIS PLANS ESTABLISH HELICOPTER PLANT IN SAN SALVADOR MAY HAVE SHADY SIDE, POSSIBLY SMUGGLING ARMS OR LUCRATIVE NARCOTICS TRAFFIC.

4. SINCE SUBJ IS U.S. CIT, REQUEST AGOVE INFO NOT BE PASED LIAISON OR OTHER U.S. GOVT AGENCIES WITHOUT HQS APPROVAL.

5. WILL FORWARD PERTINENT SLIGO TRACES.

6. FILE: 200-11-11/3. E-2, IMPDET.

14-00000

CABLE SEC DISSEM BY 28 PER TOTAL COPIES 12-2 RUN BY

PERSON/UNIT NOTIFIED

S E C R E T

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

ADVANCE COPY ISSUED/SLOTTED BY AT Z

STAFF

ACTION UNIT WH8

ACTION #

INFO: RF FILE VR 1P/AN

T 802260 PAGE 01-01 IN 134684

TOR:111322Z JAN 74 SALV 20685

S E C R E T 102325Z JAN 74 STAFF

CITE SAN SALVADOR 20685

TO: DIRECTOR INFO WH/MIAMI.

201-0357804

1. REQUEST TRACES ON MR. JOSEPH R. MEROLA, AGE 48,

K BORN PENNSYLVANIA, RESIDENCE 0S MIAMI SHORES, FLORIDA.

MEROLA CLAIMS BE AERONAUTICAL CONSULTANT WITH PATTERSON AIRCRAFT COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA. HE SUPPOSEDLY TRYING NEGOTIATE DEAL TO ESTABLISH HELICOPTER PLANT EL SALVADOR. DURING TALKS AT SOCIAL PARTIES WITH EMBASSY PERSONNEL HE INDICATED PREVIOUS WORK WITH BKHERALD.

2. FILE: DEFER. E2 IMPDET

K Svc'd

S E C R E T

RECORD COPY

201-357804
11 JAN 74

14-00000

UNCLASSIFIED | INTERNAL USE ONLY | CONFIDENTIAL | SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

CIA Operative in El Salvador

FROM: DOMESTIC COLLECTION DIVISION
Support Branch, Operational Support Section
Room 900, Key Building - ext. 2263
Mr. Shaun P. Ryan

NO. HH-25826

DATE 8 January 1974

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE RECEIVED	DATE FORWARDED	OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. C/WH/2/GS Attn. Kathy Kaurer 3 B 4402 Hqs.	10 JAN 1974			The attached Memorandum HHM-006-74, is for your interest and retention. Please advise us at your earliest convenience of any additional interest or requirements in this matter. Thank you. cc: CI/OP/WH
2.				
3. DC/WH/2	11 JAN 1974			
4.				
5. C/WH/2	11 JAN 1974	11 Jan.		
6. C/WH/2/G.S				
7. WH/2/GS/Patti				— action — (a) pls call DCD to find out who Mesola is — job, etc. (b) ask them to ask Mesola who the secret service man is (c) then send [illegible] FYI to Station.
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				E 2 IMPDET CL BY 007622 3:5-6 Suggest we close the matter.

FORM 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS | SECRET | CONFIDENTIAL | INTERNAL USE ONLY | UNCLASSIFIED

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CONFIDENTIAL

Memorandum

MIM-006-74

TO : Chief, Domestic Collection Division

DATE: 4 January 1974

ATTN : Support Branch/OSS (JGross)

FROM : Chief, Miami Field Office

SUBJECT: CIA Operative in El Salvador

MURAWSKI ??

1. Joe Merola contacted the Miami Office on 21 December 1973 to explain that he recently had spoken with a friend of his in San Salvador, El Salvador. The friend, who allegedly works for the El Salvadoran Secret Service, told Merola that when he (Merola) comes to El Salvador not to go to the US Embassy to see a man named Vermillion. The friend told Merola that Vermillion is the Commercial Attache at the embassy and is under surveillance because he is suspected of being the CIA man in San Salvador. Merola told his friend that he did not know a man named Vermillion, nor would he ever have cause to see such a man. The friend then told Merola that he was only telling him for his own good, and that if he (Merola) were to see this Vermillion that Merola would become a suspected CIA agent as well.

2. Merola said that he was passing this information to us in case we did indeed have a man in San Salvador by the name of Vermillion. Merola has been a contact of the Miami Field Office for some ten years, and during that period he has passed to this office some very reliable information.

BRUCE E. MAINWARING

NCMacVane:paw

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

CONFIDENTIAL

14-00000

SECRET

4 February 1964

[illegible]: Chief, Security Branch

FROM: Greg Maruca

[illegible] 785

1. [illegible]

2. [illegible] Lt. Van Buskirk, Metro Intelligence

3. [illegible] To pass info and receive advice.

4. [illegible] 0930 hours, 4 Feb 64, telephonically

5. [illegible]

Lt. Van Buskirk advised that Clifford V. CONNELL, who was arrested about two months ago for illegal possession of about 1½ tons of dynamite will claim as his defense that he was performing a patriotic service for his country by working with Joseph Raymond MEROLA who has on numerous occasions claimed to be working for KUBARK. The trail date has not yet been set. Others involved the same case: Remer Estuez ODOM, and Harold WIDDEN. MEROLA was born 10/9/25, Pittsburgh, Pa. and posseses FBI #4989299. Van Buskirk wanted to know if any of the above are working for KUBARK. Results of Station traces are attached.

Charlie McKay said "Joe has been of interest on intelligence level, informant type not an agent, not on payroll and not in position claim employment". McKay does not want to lose this source of info. He said one John Alie, French National, trying to overthrow Duvalier govt Haiti which might account for dynamite cache.

Advise OO. Advise Van Buskirk that the above individuals are not working for KUBARK.

OO advised 1515 hrs 4 Feb by C.O.S. C/OO said to tell police Subject (Merola) has been of interest in past as informant - not

Greg Maruca
Greg Maruca

Metro

SECRET

[illegible stamp]

Associated with KUBARK and we are not aware Subject's present activities.

VANBUSKIRK advised [illegible] of above by Althandas 1600 hrs. 4 Feb 64
Van Buskirk said we should be prepared have somebody in court from OO office ready to deny claim of Connell as he intends use this as defense. C.O.S. was so advised.

14-00000

From Mitch Lawrence
Regarding Joe Merola: Information passed on to Lt. Van Buskirk per our discussion. Van Buskirk advised that we should have somebody ready to go to court and to deny the claim of Connel that he was working on our behalf. The date for the trial is not as yet set and Van Buskirk said there is no hurry, but he would like to know whether or not we would have somebody there in as much as this person intends to base his defense on the basis of his working for us.

1645